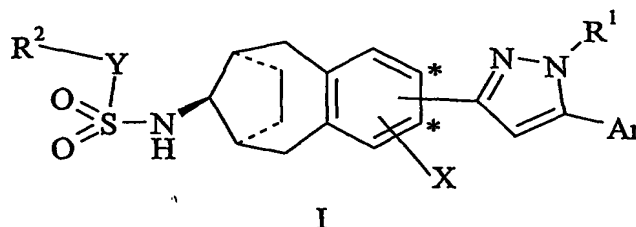


CLAIMS:

1. A compound of formula I:



- 5 wherein the pyrazole group is attached at one of the positions indicated by an asterisk and X is attached at a position adjacent thereto;

X represents H, OH, C₁₋₄alkoxy, Cl or F;

Y represents a bond, O or NR³;

- Ar represents phenyl or 6-membered heteroaryl, either of which bears 0-3
 10 substituents independently selected from halogen, CF₃, CHF₂, CH₂F, NO₂, CN, OCF₃, C₁₋₆alkyl and C₁₋₆alkoxy;

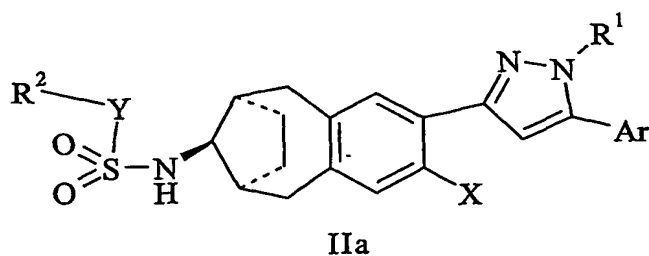
R¹ represents a hydrocarbon group of 1-5 carbon atoms which is optionally substituted with up to 3 halogen atoms; and

- R² represents a hydrocarbon group of 1-10 carbon atoms which is optionally
 15 substituted with up to 3 halogen atoms, or heteroaryl of 5 or 6 ring atoms optionally bearing up to 3 substituents independently selected from halogen, CF₃, CHF₂, CH₂F, NO₂, CN, OCF₃, C₁₋₆alkyl and C₁₋₆alkoxy; or when Y represents NR³, R² and R³ together may complete a heterocyclic ring of up to 6 members which optionally bears
 20 up to 3 substituents independently selected from halogen, CF₃, CHF₂, CH₂F, NO₂, CN, OCF₃, C₁₋₆alkyl and C₁₋₆alkoxy;

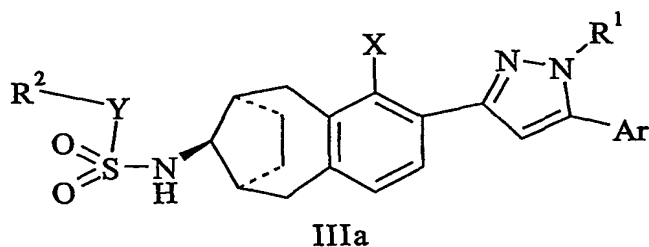
R³ represents H or C₁₋₄alkyl, or together with R² completes a heterocyclic ring as defined above;

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

- 25 2. A compound according to claim 1 of formula IIa:



or formula IIIa:



- 5 wherein X, Y, Ar, R¹ and R² are as defined in claim 1;
or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.
3. A compound according to any previous claim wherein X represents H.
- 10 4. A compound according to any previous claim wherein Y is a bond and R² represents optionally substituted phenyl or heteroaryl or C₁₋₆alkyl.
5. A compound according to any of claims 1-3 wherein Y is O and R² represents alkyl or cycloalkyl of up to 6 carbon atoms.
- 15 6. A compound according to any of claims 1-3 wherein Y is NH or NMe and R² represents alkyl or cycloalkyl of up to 6 carbon atoms which is optionally substituted with up to 3 fluorine atoms.
- 20 7. A compound according to any of claims 1-8 wherein Y is NR³ and R² and R³ complete a heterocyclic ring.

8. A pharmaceutical composition comprising a compound according to any previous claim and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

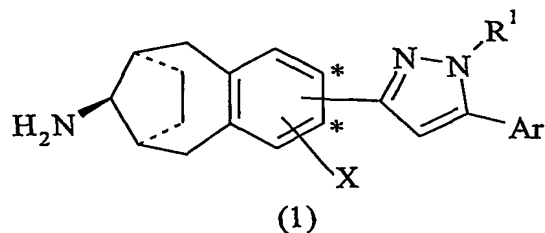
9. A compound according to any of claims 1-7 for use in therapy.

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10. The use of a compound according to any of claims 1-7 for the manufacture of a medicament for treatment or prevention of Alzheimer's disease.

11. A method of treatment of a subject suffering from or prone to Alzheimer's disease which comprises administering to that subject an effective amount of a compound according to any of claims 1-7.

12. A method of preparing a compound according to claim 1 comprising reaction of an amine (1) with R^2 -Y-SO₂Cl:



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where X, Y, Ar, R¹ and R² and as defined in claim 1.